

Urban District of Tettenhall  
(STAFFORDSHIRE)

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ANNUAL REPORT  
*of the*  
Medical Officer of Health  
*for 1962*



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**TETTENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

*Chairman :*

Councillor R. R. Wilson.

Councillor E. G. L. Pearce, J.P., C.C.  
(Chairman of the Council).

„ Mrs. E. Bate.

„ Mrs. V. M. Rhodes.

„ Dr. S. C. Dyke.

„ S. O. Morton.

„ G. H. Poole.

**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS**  
**of the**  
**LOCAL AUTHORITY**

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*Medical Officer of Health :*  
(Acting)

F. B. MACKENZIE, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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*Public Health Inspector :*  
E. BARNES, M.A.P.H.I.

*Pupil Public Health Inspector :*  
G. WILDSMITH.  
(Appointed—1st November, 1962).

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*Clerical :*  
Miss G. E. HORTON.

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*Official Address and Telephone No. of the Medical Officer of Health :*  
Council Offices, Upper Green, Tettenhall, Staffs.  
Wolverhampton 52081-2-3.

*Private Telephone No. :* Wolverhampton 37320.



## **REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1962.**

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### **Tettenhall Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1962. Incorporated in it, is that of your Public Health Inspector.

Despite the Local Government Commission's recommendations your Health Committee has not allowed their activities in the interests of the community to be abated.

As in the past, this report is made in accordance with statutory requirements as laid down by the Ministry of Health and, in so far as those requirements are more or less the same from year to year, the report would appear to follow more or less the same conventional or stereotyped pattern. Nevertheless, this does not deprive your medical officer of health or your public health inspector of the opportunity of giving information or expressing opinion favourable or otherwise, on matters relevant to the health of the community.

Information on vital statistics, sanitary circumstances of the area, prevention and control of infectious diseases, housing, food hygiene and on any other matters relevant to the safe-guarding of the health of the community is embraced in the body of the report. Such others matters are smoking and cancer, clean air and smoke abatement, care and housing of old people, fluoridation of water and noise abatement. All those subjects have had the close consideration of your Health Committee.

The position in respect of fluoridation at the moment with some authorities would appear to be one of hesitancy in recommendation in the light of fears and allegations despite their refutation.

I am glad to record your Council is in favour of fluoridation.

The health of the community on the whole can be considered satisfactory.

The absence of any cases of diphtheria or of poliomyelitis is again recorded and the response of the public to poliomyelitis vaccination at the open sessions provided in the district by the Area Health Committee has been good.

The acceptability of oral ministration of poliomyelitis vaccine as against injection will no doubt invoke a more popular response.

The population of the urban district as estimated mid-year 1962, by the Registrar-General is given as 15,360, an increase of 260 on last year. (Census 1961—14,867).

The crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 14.58 giving a standardised birth rate of 12.39, the rate for England and Wales being 18.

The crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 9.11 giving a standardised death rate of 12.20, the rate for England and Wales being 11.9.

The number of infant deaths was four, the same as last year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 17.85 per 1,000 births as compared with 16.12 last year. The rate for England and Wales was 21.4.

There were no maternal deaths.

Heart disease, vascular lesions of the nervous system, cancer and respiratory disease continue to be the predominating causes of adult death. In respect of heart disease there were 51 deaths of which 34 were coronary disease (19 male, 15 female). Deaths from Cancer of lungs and bronchus were six as against seven last year, (5 male, 1 female) ; and deaths from Cancer all forms 23 as against 26 in 1961.

It will be some time before the effect of the anti-smoking campaign as carried out by posters and other propaganda can be assessed in relation to the incidence of lung Cancer. Reduction in this form of Cancer as far as it is contributed to by smoking, is in the hands of the individual.

There was one death from Tuberculosis and in respect of this disease five new cases were notified as against six last year. Further to this, seven more cases were added to the register as inward transfers from other or neighbouring districts.

I would make special mention of your Public Health Inspector's report which I have incorporated. I feel that the information he gives in his field of activities is of more interest to the lay public than the preceding statistical information I give. The contribution he makes in his review of the housing situation in the district and the problems that arise, is certainly worthy of study.

I again record my appreciation of the services given to the old people in the community by Mrs. Walker and members of the

Red Cross Society and by Mrs. Wright of the Women's Voluntary Service and her much valued Meals-on-Wheels service. Such voluntary bodies do much to meet situations that can arise in the welfare of the aged.

The Area Welfare Officer, Mr. R. C. Cox, also continues to give his valuable services.

I acknowledge the continued co-operation of the general practitioners of the district in keeping me informed of notifiable infectious disease and the Chest Physicians and Directors of the Public Health Laboratory Service and Mass Radiography Unit for their reports.

I thank the Chairmen of the Health and Housing Committees for their support, the staff of the Health Department for their assistance and your Clerk and other Council officials for their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. B. MACKENZIE,

*Acting Medical Officer of Health*

October, 1963.



## STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1962.

Area : 2,503 acres.

Population : Census 1961	.. .. .	14,867
Estimated by Registrar-General 1962	..	15,360

Number of Domestic properties : 4,830.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £797.

Rateable value : £198,437.

General Rate : 23s. 0d.

Birth Rate : 14.58. England and Wales : 18.0.

Death Rate : 9.11. England and Wales : 11.9.

Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births : 17.85. England and  
Wales : 21.4.

Tuberculosis Death Rate—Pulmonary : 0.065.

Tuberculosis Death Rate—Non-Pulmonary : nil.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
<b>Live Births</b>	..	..	..	..	113	111	224
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	111	105	216
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	2	6	8
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.58
Standardised Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.39
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	<del>3.71</del> 3.57
<b>Still Births</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.54
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	228
<b>Infant Deaths</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.85
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.51
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Neo-Natal (under four weeks) Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.39
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.39
Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	31.25
<b>Maternal Deaths</b> (including Abortion)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
<b>Deaths</b>	..	..	..	..	66	74	140
Death Rate (Crude)	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.11
Standardised death rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.20
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

# **CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1962.**

						<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	5	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	..	..	..	..	..	5	9
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	..	..	..	..	..	13	15
Coronary Disease, Angina	..	..	..	..	..	19	15
Hypertension, with Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Other Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	5	7
Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	3	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Other diseases of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	6	11
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
All other	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
Homicide and Operations of War	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
All Causes						66	74

**BIRTH RATES.**

Year.	TETTENHALL.			England and Wales Birth Rate.
	Number of Births.	BIRTH RATE.		
		Crude.	Standardised.	
1953	165	17.4	—	15.5
1954	184	18.3	—	15.2
1955	164	15.2	—	15.0
1956	218	19.1	—	15.7
1957	207	16.79	—	16.1
1958	219	15.95	15.08	16.4
1959	210	15.60	13.57	16.5
1960	219	15.62	13.59	17.1
1961	248	16.42	13.95	17.4
1962	224	14.58	12.39	18.0

**DEATH RATES.**

Year.	Number of Deaths.	TETTENHALL.		England and Wales Death Rate.
		DEATH RATE.		
		Crude.	Standardised.	
1953	78	8.2	—	11.4
1954	117	11.6	—	11.3
1955	130	12.1	—	11.7
1956	114	9.9	—	11.7
1957	129	10.46	—	11.5
1958	109	8.44	10.13	11.7
1959	123	9.01	11.44	11.6
1960	153	10.91	13.64	11.5
1961	123	8.14	10.99	12.0
1962	140	9.11	12.20	11.9



### INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1962.

Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	3 to 4 weeks.	Total under one month.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total Deaths under one year.
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Broncho-Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Subarachnoid Haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals .. ..	3	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	4

### INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

Year.	TETTENHALL.			England and Wales Rate per 1,000 births.
	Births.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 births.	
1953	165	2	12.1	26.8
1954	184	6	32.6	25.5
1955	164	4	24.4	24.9
1956	218	5	22.94	23.8
1957	207	4	19.32	23.0
1958	219	1	4.57	22.5
1959	210	1	4.76	22.0
1960	219	9	41.09	21.7
1961	248	4	16.12	21.4
1962	224	4	17.85	21.4

## **THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

The total number of notified cases of infectious disease was 33 as against 250 last year, exclusive of Tuberculosis.

### **Measles.**

Six cases as against 214 last year.

### **Scarlet Fever.**

12 cases as against none last year.

### **Whooping Cough.**

Two cases as against 16 last year.

### **Acute Pneumonia.**

11 cases as against 18 last year.

### **Erysipelas.**

Nil as against one case last year.

### **Puerperal Pyrexia.**

Nil as against one case last year.

### **Sonne Dysentery.**

Two cases were notified. These were in respect of two young children aged 15 months and five years. They were isolated cases and both were fully investigated to my satisfaction.

The term 'Dysentery' attached to the notification tends to give the impression of something more alarming to parents and the lay public than it really is.

The term itself means a departure from a normal bowel condition and manifests itself in a mild form of diarrhoea. But the important point is that it is infective and capable of spread to the household, to a school or to the community unless it is controlled. Therefore the importance of notification and investigation and measures taken to control it.

The only way of controlling it is a high standard of hygiene in the preparation of young children's food by their mothers or others and of personal hygiene by all food handlers.

**Food Poisoning.**

No cases were reported in the course of the year.

**Cases admitted to Hospital.**

During the year four cases were admitted to hospital as follows :—

**MOXLEY HOSPITAL—**

Hepatitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Salmonella and abscess	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

**Swabs and Specimens.**

Submitted to the Public Health Laboratory :—

Sputa Swabs	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Cultures for Myco-Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	11

**General Measures.**

School Notifications of infectious disease are received by the Health Department and carefully studied for any features necessitating prompt action.

When desirable the schools are disinfected and terminal disinfection of premises and articles in affected households which have been exposed to infection carried out in all cases.

**Vaccination and Immunisation.**

The County Council does not provide for a Vaccination Centre against Smallpox, but arrangements can be made with the Medical Practitioners by those who wish themselves or their children vaccinated against Smallpox. Provision of such a centre is now under consideration.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis is undertaken in the Child Welfare and School Clinics, while special Immunisation Sessions in Schools provide for an increase in the immunity of the child population. The administration of Poliomyelitis Vaccination is in the hands of the Area Office at Brierley Hill.

Private Medical Practitioners are also prepared to vaccinate on request.



**Smallpox.**

Vaccination performed during 1962 :—

Number vaccinated—under 1 year	156	(115)
„ „ 1 to 4 years ..	75	(11)
„ „ 5 to 14 years..	158	(5)
„ „ Over 15 years	380	(9)
Total .. ..	769	(140)

Number re-vaccinated—

1 to 4 years ..	11	(—)
5 to 14 years..	133	(2)
Over 15 years	727	(4)
Total .. ..	871	(6)

The phenomenal increase on last year was due to the scare in the Bilston area.

**Diphtheria—Immunisation.**

Total number of children who have received primary immunisation during 1962 .. .. .	236	(278)
Number who have had a reinforcing injection during 1962 .. .. .	80	(268)

**Whooping Cough**

Number of children immunised during the year ended 31st December, 1962 ..		
Under 5 years of age .. ..	178	(175)
From 5 to 14 years .. .. .	2	(13)
Total .. ..	180	(188)

(*Figures in brackets relate to 1961*).

In respect of whooping-cough I give some interesting information :—

1951 (E. & W.)	Number of notified cases	..	..	169,000
	Number of deaths	..	..	453
1961 (E. & W.)	Number of notified cases	..	..	24,000
	Number of deaths	..	..	27



In 1960 and 1961, of 64 children who died in those years, 60 had had no whooping-cough vaccination.

The dramatic reduction in deaths since 1951 can be largely attributed to the introduction and efficacy of vaccination.

**Poliomyelitis—Immunisation.**

Figures are not available at date of reporting.

**Evening Sessions.**

In respect of these, they were extremely well attended and this is possibly accounted for by the fact that the oral vaccine, Sabin, was in use.

Total attendances are not yet to hand.

AGE-GROUP AND LOCALITY — DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.  
(EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1962.

DISEASE.	SEX.		Total all ages.											Tettenhall.	Tettenhall Wood.	Compton.	Wightwick.	Finchfield.	Castlecroft.
	M.	F.		Under 1 year.	1 to 2 years.	2 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.	4 to 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	65 and over.	Age unknown.				
Measles ..	4	2	6	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	1
Whooping Cough ..	0	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ..	8	3	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	2	—	1	1	1	—
Scarlet Fever ..	4	8	12	—	1	2	1	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
Sonne Dysentery ..	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
	16	17	33	—	4	2	1	6	8	1	3	3	3	2	—	18	3	6	3

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

The number of new cases notified during the year was five pulmonary against six pulmonary in the year 1961.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4 years	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5— 9 years	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—14 years	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—19 years	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—24 years	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34 years	..		—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—44 years	..		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54 years	..		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64 years	..		—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 and over	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	..	..	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	—

Yearly Figures for Last Decade.

Year.	New Cases.		Deaths.		Death Rate.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1953	15	1	1	—	0.105	—
1954	14	1	2	—	0.199	—
1955	13	1	1	—	0.093	—
1956	15	—	—	—	—	—
1957	7	—	—	—	—	—
1958	3	—	—	1	—	0.077
1959	5	1	—	<del>1</del>	—	0.074
1960	8	—	—	—	—	—
1961	6	1	—	—	—	—
1962	5	—	1	—	0.065	—

Distribution of Pulmonary T.B. Cases on Register.

	<i>Districts.</i>				<i>Cases.</i>
Tettenhall	..	..	..	..	21
Tettenhall Wood	..	..	..	..	10
Castlecroft	..	..	..	..	12
Finchfield	..	..	..	..	22
Wightwick	..	..	..	..	4
Compton	..	..	..	..	2
	Total	..	..	..	71



## TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

At the end of the year 1962 our Register counted 71 cases of Pulmonary and three cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

### Pulmonary Cases.

Number on Register at 31st December, 1961	..	..	74
Cases removed from Register	..	15	
New cases	..	..	5
*Inward Transfers	..	..	7
Number on Register at 31st December, 1962	..	71	

### Non-Pulmonary Cases.

Number on Register at 31st December, 1961	..	..	4
Cases removed from Register	..	1	
New Cases	..	..	—
Inward Transfers	..	..	—
Number on Register at 31st December, 1962	..	3	

\*From other districts—

Wolverhampton	..	..	..	4
Walsall..	..	..	..	1
Wednesfield	..	..	..	1
Knutsford	..	..	..	1
				<hr/>
				7
				<hr/>

The one death from pulmonary tuberculosis received, was in respect of an old person, 62 years of age. This is the first death in the district from tuberculosis for seven years.

As regards the incidence of the disease in the last decade in the district, the fall in the number of new cases has been marked. In 1952 there were fifteen as against five in 1962.

The means we have at our disposal for the detection and further reduction of this disease, is greater use of mass radiography, B.C.G. vaccination and contact checking.

Radiography in relation to the early detection of tuberculosis and other conditions and its value in ensuring early treatment cannot be over estimated.

### **Mass Radiography.**

Arrangements for Mass Radiography can be made with the Director of the Unit at New Cross Hospital when considered desirable.

No mass survey of the district was carried out this year. One was made last year. A three yearly rotation is considered sufficient. Of course the facility and proximity of the unit is made use of by the local practitioners for diagnostic and progress information in respect of their patients. Individuals may also visit the unit if they think such is advisable and of course health-visitors can press family contacts to visit the unit and have an X-ray examination.

In my remarks on the association of cigarette smoking with the increase of deaths from lung cancer, I quote an observation of Dr. Hutchison, the Medical Director of the Wolverhampton Mass Radiography Unit :—

“ The steady rise in the number of cases of carcinoma continued. Depressingly few were within the reach of surgery. One noted automatically that almost all were heavy smokers.”

Dr. Hutchison also makes the observation that the tuberculosis rate among Asian immigrants would appear to be high.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.**

### **Sanitary Inspection.**

The systematic inspection of the district has been carried out in an efficient manner. The general sanitary conditions of the district are on the whole satisfactory and there were no cases of disease or ill-health attributable to insanitary conditions.

Throughout the year your public health inspector has continued to exercise his usual vigilance in respect of food hygiene and it is satisfactory to report there have been no cases of food poisoning in the district.

Details of your inspector's work is given in his report.

### **Water Supply.**

The Tettenhall Urban District is supplied by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking.

The population supplied from the mains in the district is 15,354. Of the houses in the district, 4,827 obtain water direct from the mains, and three houses have a well supply. These houses are situated at a considerable distance from the mains and connection to the Wolverhampton supply has proved to be uneconomical. Samples taken during the year for bacteriological examination proved satisfactory.

I am indebted to Mr. W. C. Johnson, M.I.C.E., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.W.E., Water Engineer and Manager, for the following information :—

- (i) The water supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.
- (ii) The water supplied is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.
- (iii) There has been no known contamination of the water supply subsequent to leaving the works.

Bacteriological examination is up to the required standard. Routine biological examination is now carried out on the full scale appropriate to the size of the undertaking and routine radiological examination commenced in the last quarter of the year. Only the full chemical analysis of the sources of supply now remains to be incorporated into the new scheme of water examination.



**Number of Samples examined in 1962.**

(a) Bacteriological	..	..	..	..	..	2,270
(b) Chemical	..	..	..	..	..	577
(c) Biological	..	..	..	..	..	323
(d) Radiological	..	..	..	..	..	76
Total						<hr/> 3,246 <hr/>

Of the samples bacteriologically examined I calculate that approximately 98.5% were free from Coli-organisms per 100 ml.

From a careful perusal of the Water Engineer's full and comprehensive report I am satisfied that the water supplied to the urban district is of a very high standard in respect of purity and the steps and precautions taken to ensure same all embracing.

**Sewage Disposal.**

In my report of last year I referred to the offensive and objectionable smell from the works. This of course was attributable to the sewage sludge in relation to its disposal.

The proximity of the old sewage farm would appear to offer a solution by the removal of the liquid sludge to that site.

Your Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. J. W. Mason, M.I.Mun.E., M.T.P.I.) has supplied me with the following information :—

“ The new Sewage Works at Trescott continued to operate satisfactory producing a good effluent throughout most of the year.

The total volume of sewage received and treated at the Works was 239.835 million gallons. This corresponds to an average daily flow of 657,000 gallons or 32 gallons per head of the population per day.

The results of monthly samples of final effluent submitted to the County Analyst have been averaged and are as follows :—

A.	5 days Biochemical Oxygen Demand	19.3 parts/milion.		
B.	Suspended solids	..	..	27
	4 hours Permangante Value	..	..	14.1
	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	..	..	4.22
	Albuminoid Nitrogen	..	..	2.00
	Nitric Nitrogen	..	..	44.4



These results show a well nitrified effluent within the generally accepted standards of 20 p.p.m. and 30 p.p.m. for tests A and B respectively recommended by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal.

**Sludge Disposal.**

Measures have been taken to eliminate odour nuisance and these incurred altering the sludge disposal operations. The initial method was to pump liquid sludge on to ash beds where drying occurred by under-draining and evaporation. When dry the sludge was removed from the beds and stock-piled to await removal to farmland. It was from the drying beds and the stockpile that obnoxious gases of decomposing organic matter became airborne.

The revised method of disposal entails removing sludge as it is produced, in its liquid state.

A disposal area has been prepared at the old Blackbrook Sewage Works and it is hoped that this site is sufficiently distant so that any smell will dissipate before residential development is encountered.

It is hoped that the measures taken will prove adequate but should they fail sludge treatment processes will have to be examined.

During the year the Council made application to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for loan sanction to sewer Perton Road area of their district.”

I avail myself of this opportunity of testifying to the knowledgeable efficiency of your Sewage Works Manager in the management and supervision of the Works.

**Public Conveniences.**

Improvements have been carried out to Women’s Conveniences in Regis Road and other work is in hand for the Men’s Conveniences in this road and at the Upper Green.

**Danescourt Lawn Cemetery—Burials.**

Mr. F. S. Pratt, Cemetery Superintendent, has supplied me with the following information :—

Period 1st January—31st December, 1962—

Adult Males	..	..	..	..	26		
Adult Females	..	..	..	..	19	..	45
Total interments to 31st December, 1962	..	..				..	131

43 Memorial Plaques were placed in the Cemetery during the year.

A Public Shelter, the gift of an anonymous donor, was completed during the year.

50 additional shrubs and five trees were planted in the Cemetery border.

It is proposed that additional flowering shrubs be purchased during the coming year to further furnish the Cemetery border.

Further improvement to the verge in Coppice Lane was made, a stretch of turf being laid on the further side from the Cemetery boundary wall. It is hoped that during the next years few a cultivated grass verge will run on both sides of the lane from Wergs Road to the Cemetery entrance.

#### **Mortuary.**

The number admitted to the mortuary during the year was 36.

## HOUSING.

Good progress is being made in freeing the district of houses unfit for further habitation but more might be done to improve sub-standard houses, that is to say, houses that cannot be considered to be unfit in the accepted sense but are without the amenities such as bathroom, hot and cold water and inside toilet facilities which are expected in these days of enhanced living conditions.

Circular 42/62 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, states that the Minister wants to see a big increase in the number of houses improved with the help of Improvement Grants.

Such grants can no doubt be made available but participation in the facility is often not so easy as it sounds. For example, the occupants may be elderly owner-occupiers and not prepared to take advantage of the facility at their age expectation of life or in the absence of private means to contribute their share of the expense in carrying out the desirable improvements or on account of their inability to borrow in the open market and the reluctance of building societies to participate in the improvement of such properties, nor is there evidence that landlords are prepared to provide the desirable amenities under the grant scheme in relation to the rents they would expect to get and not be readily forthcoming.

Above factors may contribute to a disappointing response to the availability of Improvement Grants.

The only answer of course to the situation is to make the provision of modern amenities compulsory.

I am indebted to your Surveyor, Mr. Mason and your Housing Manager, Mr. Berrisford, for the undermentioned statistical information.

Lower Street development was completed during the year and preparations have been put in hand for a further 34 dwellings in Regis Road.

The Council own 1,027 houses of which 124 have been allocated to Wolverhampton Corporation for Overspill, the target being 300 in the ten year period 1957/1966.

During the year 30 Council dwellings of which six were allotted to Wolverhampton were completed. The majority of the completed Council dwellings went to local families from houses under Demolition Orders and to families on the grounds of need or medical recommendation.



46 Private houses were completed during the year and at 31st December, 1962, a further 33 were under construction.

The families and persons on the waiting list for rehousing, number as follows :—

Childless Couples in Rooms .. .. .	27
With Children in Rooms .. .. .	66
Already in Occupation of a House .. .. .	92
Applications for Aged Persons Dwelling .. .. .	48
	<hr/>
	233
	<hr/>

Representation in respect of Bridgnorth Road Clearance Area has been made.

The housing position to date in respect of unfit houses and progress in Demolition and Clearance Areas is given in the report of your Public Health Inspector.



## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

In the following pages I give the broad outline of the work of the Department to supplement the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

The work during the year under review has been mainly a consolidation of the principles which have been built up during the last few years on current legislation and standards adopted by the Council. The routine work of the Department has been maintained even though it has been difficult at times to maintain the regularity of inspections. Priority, however, is always given to complaints by the public and the problems that arise throughout the area.

The problem of sub-standard houses still remains a major issue; the demolition or improvement of premises is an almost permanent feature of the queries raised by the public.

The legal standard of unfitness and the generally accepted requirements for modern facilities do not at all reconcile themselves to the public or to officials. The time is now ripe for legislation to enforce the provisions of amenities to all houses, such as baths, sinks, wash hand basins, internal sanitary conveniences. Houses lacking these services should be regarded as legally unfit for human habitation.

A large number of houses throughout the district particularly of the terrace type, could be given a useful and long term life if they were modernised by the demolition of the dark, obsolete scullery buildings and replaced with a modern kitchen and bathroom. Surely the external lavatory and scullery should belong to the past.

Another aspect of housing which needs constant supervision is the creeping tendency for the conversion of large houses into several small units of accommodation. Unless this problem is kept under control from the onset this can set up housing problems which may give rise to conditions which are akin to, if not worse than sub-standard. The legislation under the new 1961 Housing Act does give extended powers for the control of this type of premises.

In previous years, comment has been made on the work that has been carried out throughout the district to improve the standards of structure, fittings and hygiene in all types of food premises. In this work the public could do a great deal to help the Local Authority by being more discriminating in their use of shops and in helping to maintain in particular, an improving standard of hygiene. For example, if the public are dissatisfied with any product they should complain to the management and if no

satisfaction is obtained they should report to the Department. How many members of the public will accept food commodities after assistants have licked their fingers or run them through their hair? No doubt elementary things but really reprehensible.

Despite the vast publicity that is given to the question of clean air, I regret to report that there is no progress in the district. This is not a rare distinction by any means. The problem in a residential area like Tettenhall is different to an area where there are industrial chimneys with obvious black smoke. It is regrettable that no recordings are made in the district to give a picture of the incidence of smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution. The problem of clean air knows no boundaries and before the problem is solved every authority will have to play its part in eliminating the burning of raw bituminous fuels. This is not the full solution to the problem of clean air but it is the primary and a very substantial part.

Other aspects of the work of the Department which are constantly coming to the fore and need improved legislation for their control are mobile shops and the provision of improved amenities and facilities for workers who are not under the jurisdiction of the Factories Acts.

Over the years, in my experience, I am increasingly coming to the opinion that a considerable part of the work of a Public Health Inspector is trying to explain to the inhabitants of the district the complexities and requirements of modern legislation and the complications of the bureaucratic machinations of red tape. This requires patience and insight to probe beneath the surface of affairs and people's complaints. Finding out and getting at the root of the problems raised by members of the public, requires an essential preliminary approach to their queries "Can the Health Department be of assistance, or if not, can I put them in touch with someone who can?"

This on occasions often requires a very strong exercise of restraint to give a simple clear-cut answer, after weighing up all aspects of the problem whether they be on legal, health or housing grounds.

The problem of staffing appears to be an almost permanent feature of any office administration, but it would be very remiss of me if I did not pay tribute to the very willing assistance I have received from members of the Department and to Mr. Lockley, in his part-time duties on Rodent and Pest control, for his most valuable help.



### HOUSING.

Details of action by the Public Health Committee, acting for the Council under Delegated powers, on individual premises following Official Representation.

22 and 30, Castlecroft Road..	Closing Order, January, 1962.
12, 14, 16, 18 and 20, Oak Hill, Finchfield .. ..	Demolition Order January, 1962.
78, 80 and 82, Wood Road, Tettenhall Wood ..	Demolition Order December, 1962.
18, Manor Street, Tettenhall	Closing Order, 1962.
28, Mount Road, Tettenhall Wood .. ..	Closing Order December, 1962.

#### Houses Demolished during the year.

31, Yew Tree Lane.

17, 17a and 19, Wood Road.

56, 58 and 60, Lower Street.

1 and 2, Wightwick Bank.

1 and 2, Shaw Lane.

18 houses were demolished in the Aldersley Road Clearance Area, Nos. 88 to 122.

One house was demolished in the Lower Street C.P.O. (No. 2, Lower Street) to complete the final clearance of this site.

At the end of the year under review the following properties on which Individual Orders were operative were still occupied :—

<i>Address.</i>	<i>Date of Order.</i>
10, Oak Hill .. ..	March, 1955.
3 and 5, School Road .. ..	January, 1958.
1, 2 and 3, Wightwick Leys Cottages..	July, 1959.
62, 66, 68 and 70, The Holloway ..	November, 1960.
31, Limes Road .. ..	April, 1960.
3, Nursery Walk .. ..	April, 1960.
Lock House, Compton .. ..	July, 1960.
23 and 25, Wood Road .. ..	December, 1960.
43, 45, 49 and 51, Mount Road ..	December, 1960.
1, 2 and 3, West View Cottages ..	July, 1961.
8, School Road .. ..	May, 1961.
57 and 59, Woodthorne Road South ..	May, 1961.
4, Finchfield Hill .. ..	July, 1961.
19 to 29, Mount Road .. ..	December, 1961.
14, Bridgnorth Road .. ..	November, 1961.

<i>Address</i>	<i>Date of Order.</i>
12, 14 and 16, Oak Hill .. ..	January, 1962.
80, Wood Road .. ..	March, 1962.
18, Manor Street .. ..	March, 1962.
28, Mount Road .. ..	December, 1962.

Other sub-standard houses in the control of the Council which have been certified unfit and still remain occupied :—

1 to 7, Manor Street, Tettenhall .. Three occupied.

Making a total of 42 families requiring rehousing from premises affected by Individual Housing Act Orders.

### **Bridgnorth Road Clearance Area.**

Official Representation was made in October, 1962, in respect of Nos. 77 to 143, Bridgnorth Road, a total of 34 houses.

### **Housing—General.**

During the year under review there was an increased interest in the modernisation and improvement of properties with Demolition Orders operative and of those included in the list of sub-standard properties.

Consideration was given to improvement schemes in respect of 11 houses and the following were completed and removed from the lists :—

- 1, 2 and 3, Perton Court Cottages—converted into two houses.
- 28, Mount Road—modernised and repaired.
- 5, Deepmere Cottages—modernised and repaired.
- 36, Wood Road—repaired and adopted into adjoining house.

It is anticipated that several other schemes will be completed during the year 1963.

This type of work is often expensive as the necessary works usually involve in addition to modernisation, taking up ground floors, inserting a damp-proof course, improving natural lighting, renewing woodwork, plasterwork and re-roofing, weatherproofing external walls and often demolition of old scullery buildings.

These schemes deserve to be encouraged where the buildings are reasonably sound and have sufficient size and free space available.

Further informal efforts have been made to improve houses with poor or external scullery and sanitary facilities, but without any real success. It is regrettable that these poor facilities should



be allowed to remain where houses are of good size and construction and could be easily modernised and repaired to give a further long and useful life. Allowing this class of property to deteriorate only increases the future number of premises for demolition orders.

Where houses which remain occupied for any length of time after Orders have become operative, disrepair and dilapidation become increasingly obvious and a constant source of complaint.

A feature of housing that might be encouraged is the clearance of a few houses in various parts of the district to help the redevelopment that is taking place in those parts. The removal of a few houses would in some instances considerably assist the redevelopment. The houses involved in this problem are often of a better standard than the premises that are being taken under the Act for demolition.

### **Overcrowding.**

Only two cases of overcrowding were found and reported on during the year.

### **Improvement Grants.**

The sum of £1,500 was paid to owners of houses for works of improvement and modernisation completed.

The works resulted in the improvement of five houses.

Judging by the number of enquiries made, there appears to be increasing interest by the public in the use of this scheme, mainly by persons who purchase terrace properties and wish to modernise for their own occupation.

### **Moveable Dwellings.**

Only two dwellings are approved for permanent occupation within the district. These are sited in the Finchfield area.

Some difficulty was experienced in controlling a site in the Wergs area which was used for a considerable part of the year to house up to 24 moveable dwellings and a considerable number of motor vehicles. This problem was finally resolved by action taken in the magistrates court on two occasions. This case was typical of the problem usually associated with the control of this type of dwellings and indicates the need for prompt action to control the use of unauthorised sites.

Other moveable dwellings can be found in the area particularly during the winter months, but these are unoccupied and are only being garaged.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are no premises of this type within the district.

### **Rent Act.**

No formal work was carried out under this Act. It is regrettable that the public do not make more use of this legislation and its provisions for the repair of houses and renewal of fittings.

### **Shops Act.**

Within the district there are 117 shops. This is an increase of two over the figure of 1961. There are in addition 23 fully licensed premises in the district.

The majority of the shops are small units, mainly under self-employed control, employing two, three and four assistants.

Other shopping facilities provided in the district are from mobile shops retailing foodstuffs which do not come under the control of the Shops Acts legislation. Other shopping services are provided by delivery of all types of goods from shops in and out of the area.

The shopping facilities and services appear to be steadily improving and when the proposed new development at Compton is completed the area should be well served for domestic shopping needs.

During the year the work has been routine in character and was usually carried out in conjunction with inspections under the Food and Drugs or Public Health Acts and has mainly revolved around the checking of Sunday trading, ventilation of premises, provision of facilities for staff, employment of young persons, and the giving of advice on the Closing hours.

No statutory action was found necessary.

### **Sanitary Accommodation and Drainage.**

Some progress has been made towards the final elimination of the few remaining waste water closets ; during the year five were converted. This brings the total number remaining to thirteen. Of these, six will be removed in the near future by Housing Act action. The remainder are scattered throughout the district often in houses which also have modern type facilities.

There only remains one pail closet at a small factory in Compton.

The major problem for the near future is the provision of public sewers in the Perton Road, Pattingham Road, Keepers Lane, Wergs Hall Road, Grove Lane and Ash Hill areas, to eliminate the septic tank drainage to individual houses. This type of drainage does give rise to problems which can give cause for complaint. The work of emptying these fittings even by mechanical means can at times be far from pleasant to the operatives.

In an urban area the elimination of small private drainage systems is an essential to environmental health.

29 informal notices were served for various types of drainage defects. There were also 17 statutory notices and in one case it was necessary to do the work in default.

Considerable advice is also given to property owners and workmen regarding works associated with drainage defects. This work can consume a large amount of time particularly in investigation, giving advice and instruction on how the work can be carried out. It often arises that the necessary works are unpleasant jobs and it is sometimes difficult to persuade and obtain workmen to carry out this work.

### **Watercourses.**

The Smestow is the main watercourse in the district and it cannot be denied that it does at times become polluted particularly after heavy rainfall. It does appear that both in and out of this area the stream takes considerable storm water overflow from sewers. In normal times the stream appears to run clear and free from pollution.

The Penk appears free from pollution.

The canal which runs through the valley from Aldersley to Wightwick is not now used for commercial traffic, its use being mainly limited to pleasure craft.



## **FOOD INSPECTION AND HYGIENE.**

### **Meat Inspection.**

Only one slaughterhouse remained in operation during the year and 100 per cent inspection was maintained. The following were inspected :—

147 Cattle.

3 Calves.

1,442 Sheep.

541 Pigs.

This is a considerable reduction on previous figures and is accounted for by the reduction in the number of slaughterhouses brought about by the implementation of the Slaughterhouse Act on the 1st January, 1962.

Outside of trimmings and strippings the following were condemned :—

Two Pigs' Carcases—190 lbs.

Offals—139 lbs.

The only evidence of tuberculosis was glandular, found in six pigs heads and one mesentery. This very low incidence is in keeping with the present trend, and shows the effectiveness of Government action for elimination of tuberculosis in cattle mainly during the post-war years.

No evidence was found of cysticercosis.

Unsound food is disposed of by incineration or by delivery to the digester-plant at Wolverhampton Abattoir.

The standard and quality of the meat killed and also retailed throughout the district is good. Outside the slaughterhouse meat and offals are inspected in shops and on vehicles.

### **Slaughter of Animals.**

Eight licences to slaughter animals were renewed during the year in accordance with the 1958 Act.

### **Food Inspection.**

The following articles were condemned during the year :—



44 lbs. of Bacon.  
 6 Legs of Pork.  
 8 Legs of Lamb.  
 3 pairs of Best End New Zealand Lamb.  
 7 pairs of Best End.  
 2 rumps of Beef.  
 8 fillets of Beef.  
 1 tin of Crab.  
 1 tin of Bean Sprouts.  
 1 box of Brie Cheese.  
 3 tins of Tongue.  
 80 lb. New Zealand Cheese.  
 1 tin smoked Salmon.

The following gives a brief summary of the complaints made to the Department by members of the public concerning food not of the prescribed nature, substance or quality.

Sterilised Milk. 70% deficiency in fat and 75% deficiency in solids not fat, caused by defective rim to bottle. Warning letter sent to Producers.

Pikelets. Stale with extensive mould. Warning letter sent. Alteration in retailing system brought about.

Cream Cake. Part of spider beetle found in cream filling. Reported to adjoining Local Authority for action.

Carton of Cream. Sampled; bacteriological examination with negative results. No action taken.

Bread. Foreign matter found to be sooty or graphitic matter. Warning letter sent to Producers.

Chocolate filled Sponge Cake. String in substance. Passed to adjoining Local Authority for action.

### **Ice-Cream and Ice-Lollies.**

Four samples of ice-cream were taken and examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service with Grade 1 results.

Two ice-lollies were also submitted for examination with results within the pH limit of 4.5 which inhibits the growth of pathogens.

The majority of the hard ice-cream now retailed is produced by the larger manufacturers who maintain a very high standard of quality for their commodities.

A change which appears to be increasingly popular with the public and likely to be a permanent feature of the trade, is the retailing of soft ice-cream from motor vehicles. The commodity is basically the same as hard ice-cream but is retailed in a softer

condition. Inspections were made of the vehicles with a view to checking the conditions of the equipment and utensils for general hygiene and cleanliness.

**Milk.**

There is little to report on milk supplies, only bottled Designated milk being supplied throughout the area.

All the milk is from the larger dairies with heat treatment plants outside of the district most of which is retailed from vehicles though a small proportion is sold from grocers' shops.

I am of the opinion that due to the success of the measures taken to ensure animal health by the veterinary services and the modern heat treatment techniques it is safe to conclude that milk retailed in the district is safe for human consumption without further treatment.

The results of bacteriological examination of 54 samples of milk taken within the district and examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service are set out in the following table :—

Designation.	No. of samples submitted.	Phos- phatase.		Turbidity.		Methylene Blue.	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Tuberculin Tested ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
T.T. (Pasteurised) ..	27	27	—	—	—	26	1
Pasteurised .. ..	14	14	—	—	—	14	—
Sterilised .. ..	12	—	—	12	—	—	—

**Food Premises.**

<i>Type of Business.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Canteens and premises where meals are prepared ..	23
Fried Fish shops .. ..	2
Butchers .. ..	12
Grocers and Greengrocer ..	42
Shops selling sweets and confectionery ..	11
Chemists .. ..	5
Licensed premises ..	23
Off-Licence premises ..	5

<i>Type of Business.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Slaughterhouses .. .. .	1
Premises Registered for the manufacture of sausage or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food ..	6
Shops selling milk .. .. .	24
Shops retailing ice-cream .. .. .	38
Licensed Game Dealer .. .. .	1

It is difficult to give a precise picture of the results of inspections at the various types of premises, but the object of each visit is always the same—to improve the standard of hygiene of the premises equipment and the handling of food and the standards of personal cleanliness and general tidiness. The visit may only result in verbally drawing attention to a small aspect of this problem or giving an explanation why a certain measure is necessary to avoid possible contamination or explaining the legal requirements.

This work may be routine in character but it is vitally essential that it should be maintained in order to maintain and improve standards.

In small food premises the accumulations of waste materials and packaging can often create problems which affect the general tidiness and easy working of the premises. I am of the opinion that the development of suitable small smokeless incinerators which would only need to operate for a short period each day, would result in considerable improvements.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.**

I am indebted to the Medical Officer of Health of the County Council for the following information regarding samples of food taken in Tettenhall.

**Details of Milk and General Foods taken during 1962.**

Article of Food.	No. Samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Milk .. .. .	12	12	—
General Foods .. .. .	47	42	5



Details are set out as follows :—

**Milk.**

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	..	6
Pasteurised	.. .. .	3
Sterilised	.. .. .	3
		<hr/> 12 <hr/>

**General Foods.**

Number of samples taken	.. ..	47
Number of samples genuine	..	42
Number of samples adulterated	..	5

**Particulars of Adulterated Samples.**

**Lime Juice Cordial—Formal.**

Contained 90 parts per million by weight of Sulphur Dioxide in excess of the maximum permitted amount.

Caution.

**Molasses—Informal.**

Label claimed in other than the prescribed manner that the Molasses contained iron.

Label amended.

**Casserole Steak—Informal.**

Sample 9.3% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.

To await decision of Food Standards Committee on meat content.

**Casserole Steak—Formal.**

Sample 9.7% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.

To await decision of Food Standards Committee on meat content.

**Casserole Steak—Formal.**

Sample 11.7% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.

To await decision of Food Standards Committee on meat content.



**Classification of Foods—47.**

Lime Juice Cordial.	Lobster Paste.
Corned Beef.	Ice-Cream Powder.
Peeled Tomatoes.	Alcoholic Peppermint Cordial 10% Proof.
Sweetened Cake Flour.	Rich Onion Gravy.
Chop Sauce.	Peanut Butter.
Glucose.	Blackberry Pie Filling.
Coffee Cup.	Anchovy Essence.
Almond Marzipan.	Jugged Hare with Veg. in Wine Sauce.
Cherry Pie Filling.	Vac-Packed Pure Coffee (two samples).
Beef Vegetable Curry.	Old Ale.
Tea.	Ruby.
Bitter Lemon.	Vinegar.
Chicken and Meat Paste.	Blackcurrent Jam.
Mincemeat.	Non-Brewed Condiment.
Casserole Steak.	Creamed Rice Milk Pudding.
Camphorated Oil B.P.	Glycerine Lemon Juice Purified.
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules B.P.	Honey with Tincture of Ipecacuum.
Tincture of Iodine B.P.	Strawberry Jam.
Cod Liver Oil B.P.	Potato Chips.
Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites.	Special Formula Loaf.
Castor Oil B.P.	Glace Cherries.
Molasses.	Casserole Steak (two samples).
Lemon Mayonnaise.	
Damson Jam.	

**CLEAN AIR.**

The national policy for the elimination of smoke pollution appears to be concentrating on the eradication of pollution in black areas. A lot of work will have to be done before the unpleasantness of this type of pollution is eradicated. In communities similar to Tettenhall the effects of smoke are mainly noticeable in the winter months and are consistent with the increased burning of bituminous fuel in open grates and the smoke drift from other areas. The policy of the Clean Air Act is basically sound and it is the duty of all Local Authorities to consider seriously whether the present progress is consistent with the health and well being of the public at large.

Only one plan was passed to the Department for consideration. This related to the installation of an incinerator; by informal negotiation the height of the chimney stack was raised to allow for better dispersal of the flue gasses.

### **RODENT CONTROL.**

This work is carried out by Mr. A. Lockley on a part-time basis for the Department and is done in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations.

The greater part of the work is at domestic premises and altogether 125 houses received treatment for infestation of either rats or mice.

The commonest cause of complaint in and around houses is created by householders who will persist in placing quantities of waste food, mainly bread on lawns supposedly for the benefit of birds. Advice on this problem appears to be only accepted by part of the public.

Regular treatments are also carried out when necessary at Council properties such as the refuse tip, the sewerage works and at other premises on request or as the result of inspection.

For the annual test baiting of sewers, 96 manholes were treated with only one positive resultant take. Other manholes in the vicinity of the take were laid with poison baits until negative results were obtained.

Some minor infestations which appeared to stem from the drainage systems caused some difficulty in treatment of the roof spaces in houses. This type of infestation, though fortunately very minor, clearly indicates the need for the regular treatment of sewers.

### **PEST CONTROL.**

The Department was responsible for the clearance of infestations of mites, beetles, wasps and bees from premises.

Insecticidal powder is distributed on request for minor treatments of small insects.

Advice on the treatment of insect infestations is given to the public where necessary, mainly with regard to wood-worm and clusterflies.

### **DISINFECTION.**

Disinfection of Books is carried out as required for the Tettenthal Wood and Finchfield Libraries following cases of infectious disease in the borrowing household. Household effects are also treated on request.

**NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.**

That noise can be an unpleasant source of distress and nuisance is now generally accepted. The problem arises in trying to determine the level of noise acceptable to the public at large. The reasonable tolerance level can vary considerably from person to person.

In a residential area the main source of noise is usually from vehicles, generally from engines, compression units, transmissions, motor horns, brake-squeal and door-slam.

Complaints do arise from time to time about the noise of chimes on motor vehicles for advertising trade or business. Considerable informal work has been done to keep it within the time limits allowed by the Act to obviate this source of complaint.

Practical difficulties also arise in the measuring of noise nuisance and the huge cost of remedial measures. In domestic properties the main problem is sound insulation and this will increase with the present tendency towards higher densities in housing and the building of more flats and terraces.

**Agricultural Act, 1956 (Health Provisions).**

No action was found necessary during the year.

**Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

No action was found necessary during the year.

**Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Reg. 1953.**

No action was taken during the year.



### ROUTINE INSPECTION WORK.

Summary of the inspection work carried out during the year is given in the following table :—

Type of Premises Inspected.	Number of Inspections.
Water, Drainage and Sanitary Services .. .. .	152
Refuse .. .. .	57
Rodent Control .. .. .	371
Repairs to Premises .. .. .	294
Food Premises .. .. .	259
Meat Inspection .. .. .	174
Infectious Disease .. .. .	29
Shops other than Food Premises .. .. .	41
Factories .. .. .	48
Housing Act.. .. .	452
Clean Air Act .. .. .	29
Miscellaneous .. .. .	192
Total .. .. .	2,098

### General Information regarding Notices Served during the year.

Form of Notice.	No. Served.	Premises.	Defects.
<b>Informal :</b>			
General Sanitary Defects	63	96	105
<b>Statutory :</b>			
Defects .. .. .	21	23	35

Legal proceedings were taken in respect of moveable dwellings.

In addition by informal action 52 dustbins were provided to private houses.

# **FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959.**

## **Part 1 of the Factories Act, 1937.**

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of		
		Inspections. (3)	Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	3	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	19	22	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	14	21	—	—
Total .. ..	36	48	—	—

## 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.  (1)	No. of Cases in which Defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found.  (2)	Reme- died.  (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tem- perature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventila- tion (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveni- ences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..					
Other offences against the Act including offences relating to Out- work) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	—	—	—	—	—



Part VIII.

Section 110.			Section 111.		
No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c). (1)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (2)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (3)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises. (4)	Notices served. (5)	Prose- cutions. (6)
—	—	—	—	—	—

E. BARNES,  
*Public Health Inspector.*











